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27 JAN 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman/COMIREX

SUBJECT : National Imaging Plan for Satellites

1. The DCI has stated his desire for a National Imaging Plan and provision for one appears in the Milestones of his Objectives for the Intelligence Community for 1975. The Director of NRO and I have signed a memorandum of agreement establishing the outline, procedures and milestones for such a plan.

2. There are two subject areas of the NIPS for which COMIREX can provide major inputs. These are satellite imagery Requirements and Exploitation.

3. The objective of the Requirements portion of the NIPS is to establish the basic imagery needs for the planning base. The COMIREX input should support both exploitation and collection planning. It should also support a substantive intelligence requirements base from which a satellite imagery strategy may be developed to meet Defense and non-Defense needs for the coming decade.

4. I would like you to have prepared an initial COMIREX requirements input to the NIPS for working purposes. I realize that the current COMIREX requirements structure is undergoing a major change which is nearly completed. However, this first input for the NIPS need not be formally approved requirements, since it will be serving only as preliminary guidance to other participants in preparing their inputs. If possible, this package should be ready for distribution by 15 February 1975.

5. The final COMIREX requirements input to the NIPS should incorporate an updated statement of requirements as well as appropriate results from the on-going "Resolution," "Search," and MC&G studies. A tentative due date for this final input is 1 June 1975.

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6. The objective of the Exploitation portion of the NIPS is to establish that part of the planning base which will make explicit the current and projected capabilities, needs, resources, data bases, and output of imagery exploitation components within the intelligence community.

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7. The details of outline, presentation, and format should be worked out at your earliest convenience with [redacted], who has the overall responsibility for the project.

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8. Finally, you should be aware that I am tasking [redacted] to prepare a NIPS input for Dissemination. I expect that he may require your cooperation and assistance, and I have asked him to make direct contact with you on this effort.

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[redacted]
Lieutenant General, USA
D/DCI/IC

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